MAY 8 5 2004 5 TO A STATE OF THE PROPERTY REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPER

PTO/SB/21 (02-04)
Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

| | Application Number | 10/706,587 | | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| TRANSMITTAL | Filing Date | November 12, 2003 | | | |
| FORM | First Named Inventor | Multerer, Alfred | | | |
| (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Art Unit | 3651 | | | |
| | Examiner Name | | | | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | Attorney Docket Number | 91136.000003 | | | |
| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | | | | |
| • | | | | | |

| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | | | | Attorney Docket Num | nber | 91136.000003 | | |
|--|--|---------------------|-------|--|----------|--|--|--|
| | ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | | | | | | |
| | Fee Transmittal | | | Drawing(s) | | After Allowance communication to | | |
| | ☐ Fee Attached | | | Licensing-related Papers | | Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences | | |
| | Preliminary Amend | iment | | Petition | | Appeal Communications to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) | | |
| | ☐ After Final | | | Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | | Proprietary Information | | |
| | ☐ Affidavit/decla | aration(s) | | Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address | | Status Letter | | |
| | Extension of Time | Request | | Terminal Disclaimer | ⊠ | Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): | | |
| | Express Abandonment Request | | | Request for Refund | | Certificate of Mailing; Acknowledgement Postcard | | |
| ⊠ | | | | CD, Number of CD(s) | | | | |
| | ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) | | Ren | narks | <u> </u> | | | |
| | Response to Missi Incomplete Applica | | | | | | | |
| | | Missing Parts under | | | | | | |
| | | SIGNATUR | RE C | F APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OF | R AG | ENT | | |
| Firm THOMAS B. RY HARTER, SECR | | | AN, l | REGISTRATION No. 31,659 | | | | |
| Sigr | nature | Thy T | 3 | m | | | | |
| Date May 3, 2004 | | | | | | | | |
| | | ***** | | | | | | |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING | | | | | | |
|---|------------|------|-------------|--|--|--|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. | | | | | | |
| Type or printed name | Paula Weil | | , | | | |
| Signature | Paula Weil | Date | May 3, 2004 | | | |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

MAY 0 5 2004 W

Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On May 3, 2004 Date

Signature

Paula Weil

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

Note: Each paper must have its own certificates of mailing, or this

certificate must identify each submitted paper.

ENCLOSED ARE:

Transmittal Form (1 page); Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 37 CFR 1.97(b) (3 pages)

Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (72 pages);

Certificate of Mailing (1page);

Acknowledgement Postcard (1)

Attorney Docket No. 91136.000003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.8. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.8 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Multerer, Alfred

Atty. Docket:

91136.000003

Serial No.:

10/706,587

Examiner:

Filed:

November 12, 2003

Art Unit:

3651

Title:

TRANSPORTATION DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 (b)

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement as set forth on the attached forms, PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b.

The following text provides a concise explanation of relevance for non-English language information by an individual knowledgeable about the content of the information:

1. Swiss Patent CH 390 978

Relates to a ski lift with an endless transportation rope running over at least two draw back pulleys one of which is provided at the lower station and the other one at the upper station of the ski lift. These pulleys rotate around an axis which is perpendicular to a base of a supporting frame of the station and are positioned on a level away from the base.

The disclosure particularly differs from the subject matter of the present invention in that the driving wheel and the deflection pulley according to the present invention are arranged substantially vertically.

2. German laid open publication no. 320 020

This publication discloses a ski lift with an endless transportation rope running over drawback pulleys. Holding bar devices are connected to the transportation rope running over drawback pulleys. Holding bar devices are connected to the transportation rope and extend to the side thereof. According to the disclosure of DE-OS-320-020 the pulleys are not arranged in a vertical but in a horizontal manner. As discussed above, this is in contrast to the disclosure of the present invention.

3. German laid open publication no. 1 580 888

Relates to the drive of a ski lift wherein the driving roller comprises a specific concave profile (Fig. 1, Fig. 2). Fig.3 shows the use of two separate endless transportation ropes wherein the drive unit is arranged as an intermediate station. Accordingly, the disclosure of DE-OS-1 580 888 may be considered as basically corresponding to the state of the art discussed under paragraph [00009] of the application as filed in the US.

4. Swiss Patent CH 432 574

Relates to a ski lift, basically corresponding to the ski lifts as discussed above, wherein the drawback pulleys are inclined about a specific angle a. Thus, this document also does not disclose a substantial vertical arrangement of the driving wheel deflection pulley.

5. Ausführungsbestimmungen (AB) zu den Vorschriften für den Bau und Betrieb von Schleppaufzügen (BOSchlepp)

This document comprises the official regulations for the construction and operation of the bar lifts according to which (section 12, regulation 12.5) the

diameters of the driving pulley, the pulley for changing the direction of the rope in the deflecting sheave have to be at least 60 times the diameter of the rope and 600 times the diameter of the wire.

As this Statement is filed before the mailing of the first Office Action, Applicant believes there are no fees due at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas B. Ryan, Registration No. 31,659

HARTER, SECREST & EMERY LLP

1600 Bausch & Lomb Place Rochester, New York 14604 Telephone: 585-232-6500

Fax: 585-232-2152

Dated: April 79, 2004

PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

| Complete if Known | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Application Number | 10/706,587 | | | |
| Filing Date | November 12, 2003 | | | |
| First Named Inventor | Multerer, Alfred | | | |
| Art Unit | 3651 | | | |
| Examiner Name | | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 91136.000003 | | | |

| | U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No.1 | Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | | |
| | | US-2,608,935 | 09-02-1952 | Moore et al. | | | |
| | | US-6,152,044 | 11-28-2000 | Bouvier | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |
| | | US- | | | | | |

| | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------|--|--|--|---|----------------|--|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Country | Foreign Patent Document Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ | |
| | | СН | 390978 | 08-31-1965 | Borer et al. | | | |
| | | СН | 432574 | 09-15-1967 | Städeli et al. | | | |
| | | DE | 3033601 | 04-15-1982 | Multerer | | | |
| | | DE | 1 580 888 | 03-25-1971 | Kroh | | | |
| | | DE | 320 020 | 01-27-1975 | Ing. Max Bruckschloggl in Bad Ischl (Oberosterreich) | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | - | | | | | 1_ | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

| Examiner | Date | |
|-----------|------------|--|
| Signature | Considered | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds of Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST .3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. S. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible.

6. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

| Substitute for form 1449B/PTO | | | | Comp | Complete if Known | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|------------|-------|------------------------|-------------------|--|--|
| | | | | Application Number | 10/706,587 | | |
| INFO | RMATION | DISCLO | DSURE | Filing Date | November 12, 2003 | | |
| STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | | First Named Inventor | Multerer, Alfred | | |
| 4. | | to on noon | and. | Art Unit | 3651 | | |
| (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Examiner Name | | | |
| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 | Attorney Docket Number | 91136.000003 | | |

| | | NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | • |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ^{1.} | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ^{2.} |
| | | English language abstract of DE 3033601. | |
| | | VERKEHR UND TECHNOLOGIE, "Ausführungsbestimmungen (AB) zu den Vorschriften für den Bau und Betrieb von Schleppaufzügen (BOSchlepp)." January 2002. | |
| | | MEINGAST SKILIFTE, Borer-Kleinskilifte and Ski-Kindergartenlift skilift systems. http://www.meingast.at/default_e.htm, Germany. | |
| | | MEINGAST SKILIFTE, Swisscord skilift systems. http://www.meingast.at/default_e.htm, Germany. | |
| | | THEMA SCHNEE, Telecorde ski lift system. September-October 2001, number 6, Italy. | |
| | | MULTI SKILIFTBAU GmbH, Multi-Skilift system. Germany and USA. | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

| Examiner | Date | |
|-----------|------------|--|
| Signature | Considered | |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete. including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.